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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in

the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of providing to a subscriber a least cost for a variable bit rate communication between a first terminal and a distant terminal to said subscriber, the method comprising

- i) determining least cost alternative network resources available for achieving said communication at a default quality of service and a required bit rate;
 - ii) determining cost data associated with said network resources; and
- iii) outputting to said subscriber a least cost for said communication according to said default quality of service and said least cost alternative network resources.
- 2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising coupling said first terminal and said distant terminal via said least cost determined network resources and said default quality of service at said required bit rate.
- 3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 further comprising billing for said communication at said default quality of service and according to said required bit rate after the termination of the communication.
- 4. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising displaying a least cost route through a plurality of different networks, alternative network paths having a different quality of service, alternative selectable required bit rates and alternative costs;